

Remedium

June 14, 2011

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
EPR-SR
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202

Attn.: Ms. Christina Prograss

Subject: OU3 RI/FS of the Libby Asbestos Site
Monthly Progress Report – May 2011

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This progress report describes work completed during the month of May 2011, in accordance with Section IX of the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study dated September 2007. A discussion of the actions taken, sampling results, planned activities, modifications, problems encountered, potential issues, anticipated delays, and solutions developed is provided below. Information by contractor is reported separately.

MWH

The following is a summary of the actions taken and progress made during May 2011.

A. ACTIONS TAKEN

- Continued weekly syringe and grab sampling of water from Parshall flume areas LRC-6, LRC-2, CC-2, and Tailings Pond.
- Provided review and comment on the Draft Burn Chamber Phase I Study Design.
- Conducted four-wheel-drive ATV tour of mine site for those certified and equipped with respirators and PPE. Conducted tour of mine site for others in HEPA-filtered, positive-pressure SUV.
- Attended PFMA conference conducted by Kurt Hafferman in Libby on May 24 – 26.

B. SAMPLING RESULTS

- None.

C. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT TWO MONTHS

The following tasks are scheduled to be performed over the next two months.

- Continue weekly sampling through June 15; begin bi-weekly sampling at the same locations until mid-September.
- Participate in teleconferences and other meetings as requested by EPA.

D. MODIFICATIONS/PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED/POTENTIAL ISSUES/ANTICIPATED DELAYS/SOLUTIONS DEVELOPED/IMPLEMENTED

The pores of the 0.1-micron filters specified in the Work Plan were occluded rapidly by stream-borne sediment and required sampling personnel to push the syringe plungers strenuously over as long as 45 minutes. In some instances, the high pressures developed during sample pressing resulted in seal failure and bypass of large particles around the 0.1-micron filter, or in filter rupture. Beginning with the May 3 sampling round, 0.2-micron filters were used and are performing much better.

Golder Associates

The following is a summary of the actions taken and progress made during May 2011.

A. ACTIONS TAKEN

- Preparation of draft amphibian protocol for submission to Remedium and EPA.
- Finalize Orgeon State University pilot trout protocol based on comments and prepare for conducting pilot trout test.
- Reviewed final Phase IVB SAP.
- Continuing Project Management activities including budgeting for Phase IVB Libby field work for Remedium review, project filing, client conference calls, and project financials.

B. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT TWO MONTHS

The following tasks are scheduled to be performed over the next two months:

- Conduct pilot trout study and coordinate on initial findings.
- Initiate data analysis and report preparation for pilot trout study.
- Conduct filter proficiency training (Fort Labs).
- Review final EPA revisions to LA vial protocol.
- Submit final amphibian bioassay protocol.
- Conduct Phase IVB field activities (temperature data logger deployment) at OU3.
- Collect OU3 sediment samples for amphibian bioassay.
- Collect reference pond sediment samples (from reference Oklahoma pond) and submit for analysis.
- Collect Ranid eggs for amphibian bioassay conduct.
- Prepare for conduct of amphibian bioassay (late July or early August).

C. MODIFICATIONS/PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED/POTENTIAL ISSUES/ANTICIPATED DELAYS/SOLUTIONS DEVELOPED/IMPLEMENTED

None at this time.

If you have any questions regarding this progress report please contact Bob Marriam at (901) 820-2023.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert J. Medler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Robert J. Medler
Project Coordinator
Remedium Group, Inc.

cc: Michael DeDen – MWH
Lynne Gardner – Grace
John Garr – MWH
Robert Marriam – Grace
Sue Robinson – Golder
Larry Scusa – Montana DEQ
Rebecca Thomas – EPA